

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

A4 5. (Amended) The process as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the metal nitrate is a nitrate of a metal selected from the group consisting of cobalt, copper, zinc, manganese, iron, molybdenum, bismuth and cerium.

A5 8. (Amended) The process as claimed in any one of Claims 4 to 7, wherein the alkali metal bicarbonate is a bicarbonate of a metal selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium, lithium, rubidium and cesium.

A6 23. (Amended) A gas generating composition comprising (a) tetrazole derivatives, or at least one guanidine derivative selected from the group consisting of, guanidine, guanidine carbonate, nitro guanidine, dicyandiamide, nitro amino guanidine and nitro amino guanidine nitrate and (b) a basic metal nitrate.

24. (Amended) A gas generating composition comprising (a) tetrazole derivatives, or at least one guanidine derivative selected from the group consisting of guanidine, guanidine carbonate, nitro guanidine, dicyandiamide, nitro amino guanidine and nitro amino guanidine nitrate, (b) a basic metal nitrate and (c) a binder and/or a slag-forming agent.

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